

County of Los Angeles CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

713 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION • LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012 (213) 974-1101 http://cao.co.la.ca.us

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July 18, 2003

To:

Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke, Chair

Supervisor Gloria Molina Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky Supervisor Don Knabe

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From:

David E. Janssen 64

Chief Administrative Officer

MOTION TO SUPPORT H.R. 2193, "THE PORT SECURITY IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2003"--ITEM NO. 12, AGENDA OF JULY 22, 2003

Item No. 12 on the July 22, 2003 Agenda is a motion by Supervisor Knabe that the Board of Supervisors send a five-signature letter in support of H.R. 2193, the "Port Security Improvement Act of 2003", to the California Congressional Delegation and President Bush, urging early, favorable action and enactment of this bill.

H.R. 2193 (Ose, R-CA) would authorize appropriation of 30 percent of the difference between the Custom duties collected and the Federal port security costs at a given port, for expenditure by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) for port security enhancements. These appropriations would be authorized for only the first five years after enactment of H.R. 2193. The bill also sets a deadline for the Coast Guard to issue Transportation Security Card regulations and it requires the setting of national minimum standard security requirements for ports and vessels entering the ports.

According to the American Association of Port Authorities (AAPA), H.R. 2193 would generate approximately \$3.3 billion over five years, which equals the Coast Guard's December 2002 estimate for port security improvements (\$1.3 billion in the first year and \$500 million in each of the following four years.) The funds would be allocated by DHS pursuant to approved Area Maritime Transportation Security Plans, Facility Security Plans, and Vessel Security Plans. Port organizations, such as the California Marine Affairs and Navigation conference (C-MANC), support the concept of using Federal funding to improve port security without raising existing fees or taxes. They note that the costs of port security improvements are beyond the ability of the

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ports and local governments to fund, and that the Federal Government must help fund port infrastructure improvements because ports are critical to the National economy.

Support is consistent with Board policy, as contained in the County's Federal Legislative Agenda approved on February 4, 2003, to seek funding to improve the security of critical infrastructure, such as roads, bridges, flood control, water resources, hospitals, public buildings, and transportation facilities.

H.R. 2193 was introduced on May 21, 2003 by Representative Ose, and co-authored by Representatives Tierney (D-MA), Janklow (R-SD), Harman (D-CA), and Lewis (R-CA), with 26 additional co-sponsors. The bill was referred to the House Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure and Ways and Means. No hearings have been set.

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c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors County Counsel Legislative Strategist